

# San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

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**TO:** Commissioners and Alternates

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**SUBJECT: Staff Report and Recommendation on a Contract with the Delta Stewardship Council to Assist in the Development of a Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan for the Eastern Portion of Contra Costa County**  
(For Commission consideration on June 15, 2017)

## Summary

The staff recommends that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with the Delta Stewardship Council, which would provide up to \$150,000 over 18 months to the Commission for its Adapting to Rising Tides Program to lead a vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning effort for the eastern portion of Contra Costa County, from Bay Point to Discovery Bay. These funds will support Commission staff costs as well as consultant support and support for Contra Costa County staff working on the project. The staff also recommends that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to amend the contract in the future, as long as the amendment does not involve substantial changes in either the scope or amount of the contract, and to extend the term of the contract, if necessary.

## Staff Report

**Background.** The Delta Stewardship Council is tasked with managing the Delta's water and environmental resources over the long-term and reducing risks to people, property, and state interests in the Delta. Recognizing that California is projected to experience significant rise in sea levels over the next century, the Delta Stewardship Council approached the Commission's Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) Program to lead a project that would improve understanding and planning for the risks presented by sea level rise in the Delta.

The ART Program has led, or supported, numerous vulnerability assessments and sea level rise adaptation planning efforts throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, including most recently an adaptation planning effort in western and central Contra Costa County. These efforts have enabled the ART Program to test and refine adaptation planning methods that integrate sustainability and transparent decision-making from start to finish, and foster robust collaborations that lead to action on adaptation. The ART Program experience in the Bay provides a positive model that can be applied in the Delta to meet the goals of the Commission and Delta Stewardship Council to increase resilience in the entire Bay-Delta region. This contract will support the Commission's ART Program staff to:

1. Convene and staff a shoreline adaptation planning project that includes the Contra Costa County shoreline extending from Bay Point to Discovery Bay. ART Staff will work with a consultant to develop modeling and analysis needed to understand the sea level rise vulnerability in the area and to understand the current and future flood risk. Using the ART adaptation planning process, tools, and data, ART staff will work with local jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations in Contra Costa County, as well as regional, state and federal agencies, to understand the vulnerabilities and consequences communities may face, including: the disproportionate impact to community members, the disruption of transportation and utility infrastructure, the loss of employment sites, and limitations on access to goods and services. The project will work towards identifying shared and individual actions that will help improve resilience to rising sea levels and other climate change impacts.

The work conducted under this contract directly builds upon and supports other ongoing and completed BCDC projects aimed at understanding and responding to the current and future flood risks faced by the Bay-Delta region. These projects include the ART Bay Area Project, the ART Contra Costa County Project, and the 2021 update to Plan Bay Area. Accordingly, staff recommends that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to: (1) execute a contract with the Delta Stewardship Council to provide up to \$150,000 over 18 months to the Commission for its staff costs, consultant support, and Contra Costa County Staff support to lead a vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning effort for Eastern Contra Costa County; and (2) amend the contract, as long as the amendment does not involve substantial changes in either the scope or amount of the contract, and to extend the term of the contract, if necessary.